

From: Nicole Walter <nwalter@washpirg.org>
Sent: Monday, October 10, 2022 7:50 PM
To: DES SBCC
Subject: WashPIRG supports adopting proposed energy code updates
Attachments: [WashPIRG letter of support.pdf](#)

External Email

Chair Doan and Members of the State Building Code Council:

I am writing on behalf of WashPIRG and the undersigned 100+ Washingtonians (included in attached PDF) to urge the State Building Code Council to vote in support of the full package of residential energy code proposals that are out for public comment. In particular, we support the requirements that new homes be built with high-efficiency heat pumps to heat and cool our spaces and water, and with increased ventilation for kitchens that burn polluting gas.

From devastating floods and wildfires to unprecedented heat waves, we are already experiencing the impacts of climate change here in Washington. Emissions from the building sector are the fastest-growing source of climate pollution in Washington. We need to do all that we can to move away from burning fossil fuels and power our lives with clean energy.

In addition to climate pollution, buildings are a significant source of unhealthy air pollution associated with the combustion of methane. Recent studies show that homes with gas stoves have 50 to 400 percent higher nitrogen dioxide levels in their indoor air, compared to homes with electric and induction stoves. Nitrogen dioxide pollution can lead to health problems like heart failure and asthma, and just one hour of cooking on a gas stove produces nitrogen dioxide levels that would be illegal if found outdoors. Because of this significant pollution, children in homes with gas stoves have a 42 percent higher risk of experiencing asthma symptoms.

While we need to eventually transition to cleaner, safer electric and induction cooking, requiring better ventilation in kitchens with gas stoves is a necessary step forward in protecting Washingtonians from the dangers of this indoor air pollution.

The proposed code updates ensure that as Washington grows and we construct new homes, we are creating healthy homes and honoring the climate commitments made by the governor and our legislature. Washington is a climate leader -- these building code changes are an obvious way to act on our commitments, protect Washingtonians from unhealthy air, and help transition our homes to highly efficient heat pumps that can be powered by 100% clean and renewable energy.

Thank you for your consideration and your work on behalf of the state.

Nicole Walter
Advocate | WashPIRG
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WashPIRG
Washington Public Interest Research Group

www.washpirg.org

www.washpirgfoundation.org



October 10, 2022

Chair Tony Doan
Washington State Building Code Council
1500 Jefferson St SE
Olympia, WA 98501

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Thank you for your consideration and your work on behalf of the state.

Nicole Walter
WashPIRG Advocate

K. Eggers, Addy
Karen Mensinger, Allyn
Joy Dunning, Bainbridge Island
Kelly Conrad, Bainbridge Island
Zuzana West, Bainbridge Island
Joe Micheletti, Bellevue
Richard Johnson, Bellingham
Eric Caffi, Bellingham
David Laws, Bellingham
Roger Clark, Bellingham
Betsy Pernotto, Bellingham
John Primrose, Bellingham
Rick Romito, Bellingham
Paul Behrens, Bellingham
Shelley Simcox, Bremerton
Ellen Epstein, Bremerton
Barbara Rosenkotter, Deer Harbor
Kathleen Wheeler, Deer Park
Patricia Littlewood, Eastsound
Brandon Juhl, Everett
Robert Brown, Fircrest
Gordon Foster, Freeland
Chris Springer, Friday Harbor
Susan and Peter Risser, Friday Harbor
Tamara Saarinen, Gig Harbor
Katherine Nelson, Kent
Scott Fortman, Kirkland
Lyla Jacobsen, Kirkland
Susan Vossler, Kirkland
Glen Anderson, Lacey
Shane Spear, Lake Forest Park
Dorothy Jordan, Lynden
Jerry Kessinger, Lynnwood
Hannah Gardner, Lynnwood
Derek Benedict, Lynnwood
Nick Barcott, Lynnwood
Rosemary Moore, Mercer Island
Carolyn Boatsman, Mercer Island
Diane Taylor, Mercer Island
Michael And Barbara Hill, Mineral
Norm Conrad, Mount Vernon
Ben Moore, Mountlake Terrace

Jessica Goulet, Port Angeles
Sally Rodgers, Port Townsend
Owen Fairbank, Port Townsend
Kindy Kemp, Port Townsend
Daniel Brant, Port Townsend
C Mast, Raymond
Elena Rumiantseva, Redmond
Noel Barnes Barnes, Renton
Linda Bock, Sammamish
Jayme Jonas, Sammamish
Eric Shields, Seattle
Keith Cowan, Seattle
Greg Espe, Seattle
Todd Gray, Seattle
Perry Bryant, Seattle
Martha Gillis, Seattle
Baker Smith, Seattle
Sharon Price, Seattle
Art Peskind, Seattle
Nick Heyer, Seattle
Pamela Silimperi, Seattle
Christine Mustelier, Seattle
Michelle Pavcovich, Seattle
Rebecca Rose, Seattle
Donald W Parda, Seattle
Tika Bordelon, Seattle
Randal Jeter, Seattle
Rich Lague, Seattle
Barbara Sim, Seattle
Meta Chessin, Seattle
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Javier Ortiz, Seattle
Maria Lambright, Seattle
Carol Chipman, Seattle
Larry Mahlis, Seattle
Scott Species, Seattle
Tim Gould, Seattle
James Little, Seattle
Lauren Tozzi, Seattle
Vivian Korneliussen, Seattle
David Rossiter, Sequim

Elizabeth Hauser, Olympia
Scott Bishop, Olympia
Thomas Johnson, Olympia
Rod Tharp, Olympia
Susan McRae, Olympia
Elyette Weinstein, Olympia
Robert Godwin, Olympia
Cynthia Stonick, Olympia
Jo Harvey, Pacific

Alisha Leviten, Shoreline
David Newman, Shoreline
Janet Riordan, Snohomish
Barbara Blackwood, Spokane
Anita Dygert-Gearheart, Spokane
Adina Parsley, Stanwood
Linda Wasserman, Tacoma
Madeline Greeley, Tacoma
Emily Willoughby, Tukwila